

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG ETRD UR COMECON

SUBJECT: MEETING OF CEMA INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF ORENBURG NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

REF: MOSCOW 13623, PRAGUE 3118

1. SOVIET PRESS REPORTS FIRST MEETING IN MOSCOW JANUARY 9
OF "INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR COOPERATION IN CONSTRUCTION
OF NATURAL GAS PIPELINE FROM ORENBURG TO WESTERN FRONTIERS
OF USSR". MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SOVIET DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS M.A. LESECHKO WHO IS ALSO PERMANENT
SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE IN CEMA. TAKING PART IN MEETING WERE
ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES FROM BULGARIA, HUNGARY, GDR, POLAND,
ROMANIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY BY NAME WERE
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GDR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RAUCHFUSS AND

CZECHOSLOVAK MINISTER OF METALLURGY J. SHIMON. OFFICIALS OF CEMA
SECRETARIAT AND CEMA INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT BANK (IIB)
ALSO TOOK PART.

2. MAIN AGENDA ITEMS OF MEETING WERE REPORTEDLY CONCERNED WITH
ORGANIZATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF PIPELINE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
AGREEMENT REACHED AT CEMA SUMMIT MEETING AT SOFIA IN JUNE 1974.

3. COMMENT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING OF AN INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR A CEMA MULTILATERAL PROJECT IS AN
UNUSUAL DEVELOPMENT AND INDICATES COMPLEX PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN
ORENBURG CONSTRUCTION. UNLIJ MULTI-LATERAL PROJECTS
ON SOVIET TERRITORY, EE CEMA COUNTRIES (EXCEPT ROMANIA) WILL BE
PROVIDING NOT ONLY EQUIPMENT BUT ALSO ENGINEERS AND CONSTRUCTIN
WORKERS. PHENOMENON OF MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND POLES, BULGARIANS,
CZECHS, HUNGARIANS AND EAST GERMANS ALL WORKING AT SAME TIME
TO BUILD 2800 KILOMETER PIPELINE FOM URALS TO CARPATHO-UKRAINE
WILL BE UNIQUE IN RECENT SOVIET HISTORY.

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